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**Rombo Mountain Fire  
Bitterroot National Forest**

## **News Release**

Northern Rockies  
Incident Management  
Team  
Larry Svalberg  
Incident Commander

Ravalli County Commissioners

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**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Fire Information  
406-821-0082

Date: August 7, 2007 7 p.m.

### **Rombo Mountain Fire 2,250 Acres**

**West Fork, Mont.** – The Rombo Mountain Fire has grown to 2,250 acres by Tuesday evening. Fire behavior mellowed somewhat Tuesday with not as much wind as predicted and slightly cooler temperatures. The outlook through the end of the week calls for hot and dry weather with a chance of thunderstorms.

The fire has been burning since July 31 and is located 16 miles north of Conner, MT and 4 miles southeast of Painted Rocks Lake.

Management actions completed Tuesday included structure protection measures at the Medicine Point Lookout; reinforcing the fireline at the west end of the fire; building additional line along the northwest flank of the fire; and continuing to assess structure protection needs in structure protection zones 12, 13 and 14 that stretch roughly from Painted Rocks Lake on the north to the West Fork Ranger District Office on the south.

Plans for Wednesday include structure protection actions at the Two Good Rental Cabin; continue to reinforce the line along the western edge of the fire; and build additional line if it can be conducted safely depending on the fire behavior.

For the public's safety the area closure was expanded Monday. The closure order prohibits public access on all National Forest system land and roads in the general area described as follows: Starting from the Forest Boundary on the Piquett Creek Road (#49) going northeast past Trapper Creek Job Corps Center; then following the Forest Boundary going southeast to Road 370 to the Crazy Creek Campground, then following Trail 103 south and east to Trail's 404 and 177, then southeast to Porcupine Saddle to Trail 205 west past the Two Good Cabin to Trail 103, then south to the West Fork/Sula Ranger District boundaries, continuing west on Trail 248 to Trail 182, then southwest to the headwaters of Slate Creek, then follow Slate Creek down

to Painted Rocks Reservoir, then north following the Forest Boundary to the beginning. (The portion of Road 370 between the Spring Gulch Campground past the Warm Springs Campground to the Crazy Creek Campground remains open and the Slate Creek Campground is open.) Signs and barricades will be placed at all points of entry into the closure area, please obey the closure for your own and firefighter safety. Maps and full descriptions of the closed area are available at Forest offices, and on line at [www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot).

There are numerous fires burning in many western states at this time stretching available firefighting resources to the limits. The Rombo Mountain fire is experiencing extreme burning conditions which limit opportunities for direct attack of the fire. Public and firefighter safety are the highest priority that Svalberg's incident management team, in coordination with the local forest personnel, take into consideration when planning and implementing fire management actions. A total of 143 personnel are assigned to the fire and additional firefighting crews and helicopters to provide support have been requested, but may not be available.

For additional information call Rombo Mountain Fire information at 821-0082 or visit the website, [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org).

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